



NEWS RELEASE

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New Jury Orientation Video Coming to Ninth Circuit Trial Courts in 2013

SAN FRANCISCO – Many of the federal trial courts in the nine western states and two Pacific Island jurisdictions that make up the Ninth Circuit will begin using a new jury orientation video in 2013.

The 18-minute video is intended to convey to prospective jurors the importance of serving on a jury and explain the juror selection process from summons through *voir dire*. It replaces a video made some time ago which did not address more recent issues, such as potential juror use of smartphones and other electronic devices.

The new video was produced by Abby Ginzberg, an award-winning filmmaker from the San Francisco Bay Area. It features remarks by retired United States Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor. Also appearing are Judge Richard A. Paez of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, Judge Susan Y. Illston of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California, and a number of former jurors, who recount their experiences during a trial and after a verdict is delivered.

The video is being distributed to jury administrators in the 15 U.S. district courts in the Ninth Circuit, which takes in the states of Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon and Washington, along with the U.S. Territory of Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project was undertaken by the Ninth Circuit Jury Trial Improvement Committee, working through the Office of the Circuit Executive and using funding provided by the circuit and several district courts.

The video is available for viewing online at: <http://tinyurl.com/federaljuryvideo2013>

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